UCAPAWA

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

UNITED CANNERY, AGRICULTURAL, PA... WORKERS OF AMERICA-CIO

Vol. IV, No. 9 — May 1, 1944 — Price 5 Cents

CURRENT SERIAL RECORD
MAY 9 - 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Library, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Victory!

Opening gun of the campaign to organize 10,000 tobacco workers in Philadelphia was fired on April 27, when the American Tobacco Workers chose UCAPAWA by a vote of 363 to 282.

LOCAL 273 GOES ALL-OUT FOR RED CROSS

New York City—In response to the Red Cross appeal for more funds, members of Local 273 conducted a whirlwind campaign for one week in ... Gardin, Secy.-Treas. of the Local was taken by the members even though most of them had already given to the Red Cross through their employers at the start of the campaign in March, and amounts to almost $3 from each member.

The money was presented through the CIO War ... representing the New York Red Cross War Fund. (See picture above). For complete story see page 7, at top.

Southern Conference Representing 25,500 Maps Future Advance

Atlanta, Ga.—Marking a period in which UCAPAWA has more than tripled its Southeastern membership in less than two years, 38 delegates from seven states representing some 25,500 industrial workers met here at the CIO hall on April 15 and 16 in the first Southern UCAPAWA conference of industrial locals in Virginia, the Carolinas, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Tennessee.

"The future of the South," said Pres. Donald Henderson in keynoting the conference, "depends on people sitting in rooms like this. The trade union is yours. When you accept leadership, you are responsible for the well-being of all your members." Both Henderson and Conrad Espe, Exec. Vice-Pres., underscored the great service the CIO is performing for the entire nation in spearheading the battle for democracy at home and abroad, pointing out that we still have a hard road ahead to achieve victory.

UCAPAWA's role in the CIO movement was given special recognition by E. L. Sandefur, CIO Regional Director for the Carolinas. "Your organization," he said, "goes into fields and situations which other organizations would consider too difficult."

Plans to strengthen the Union on all fronts were made at the conference, covering political action, War Labor Board cases, extension of organization and establishment of schools for Union leadership courses. In a series of resolutions, the conference urged Roosevelt to run for a fourth term, threw its weight behind the anti-poll tax bill, price control and the soldier vote and hailed the Supreme Court decision giving Negroes the right to vote in the Texas primaries.

WE WILL VOTE

Following an address by George S. Mitchell, Southern CIO Director of Political Action, in which he urged that all people who have not been voting, to "try hard to vote," a lively discussion disclosed that in Richmond, Va.; Memphis, Tenn.; Winston-Salem, N. C.; New Orleans, La., and elsewhere UCAPAWA locals are actively promoting the register to vote drive. In a number of places, the delegates, reported, new voters and especially Negroes are ... conducted jointly by community

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 3)

Big News in UCAPAWA:

Southeastern Conference ... 1 and 5
Red Cross Honors ... 1 and 7
Alaska Salmon Progress ... 1 and 3
Memphis Canteen Opens ... 8
Fish Canning and Seafood Division ... 3
Fruit and Vegetable Division ... 3
Grain Processing Division ... 6
Dried Fruit and Nut Division ... 6
Tobacco Division ... 7

WLB Gives Ultimatum To Alaska Salmon Industry

Seattle, Wash.—"The Alaska Salmon Industry has been informed by the 12th Regional War Labor Board that unless the contracts for 1943 are signed with the unions involved, that the 12th RWLB will recommend to the President of the United States that under his wartime powers he take over the industry," said George Bernard Noble, chairman of the Board in disclosing the decision reached by the Board on April 15.

U. S. A. MAY TAKE OVER

The Board members unanimously joined in writing a letter of instruction on April 17 to the Alaska Salmon Industry and the unions involved, asking for compliance by April 20. In the event of failure to comply, the Board advised that it would refer the matter to the National Board with the recommendation that the President of the U. S. be requested to take over the operation of the industry.

7 PER CENT ON BASE PAY

The letter included the items in controversy providing that the base rate of pay be increased by 7 per cent; that the employers provide war risk insurance; that before and after the fishing season Bristol Bay Tender crews be paid overtime; that board and room be furnished machinists; and that the same wage scale in accordance with classifications in the present contract be paid to non-resident cannery workers and

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3)

Flash!

Seattle, Wash.—Dispute with the Alaska Salmon Industry, Inc., was settled here April 24 with the signing of an agreement here with the six unions involved, according to RWLB Chairman Noble. "This is a major victory for Alaska canned salmon workers," said Exec. Vice-Pres. Conrad Espe, "especially for residence workers. We are steadily nearing our goal of complete equality between residence workers and those from the States."

(See story directly above)

Save Price Control Act, Urge UCAPAWA Girls

Washington, D. C. — Two UCAPAWA members, Velma Hopkins, a Reynolds worker from Winston-Salem, N. C., and Mary Fisher, American Tobacco worker from Philadelphia, came to Washington on April 19 to represent the Union at the Emergency Conference to Save the Price Contol Act.

They joined the 325 delegates from 175 organizations—labor unions, consumer groups, farm and civic organizations—who rallied behind the fight to see that the Price Control Act is renewed without any damaging amendments. Called by 10 Congressmen headed by Thomas Scanlon, the conference was the beginning of the battle Letween the people and an active group of Big Business lobbyists who are now pressuring Congress to cripple price control.

WAGES VS. PRICES

Sister Hopkins, one of the scheduled speakers in the first session of the Conference, told the assembled delegates what she, as a worker at the R. J. Reynolds tobacco plant, received in her pay envelope each week, and then proceeded to show them that her wages were expended for the barest necessities of life, with nothing left over for clothing, recreation or emergencies. "We workers are doing our part to save price control, and now we're asking you Congressmen to do yours," she concluded.

VISIT CONGRESSMEN

After the morning session of the Conference, Sisters Hopkins and Fisher visited their Congressmen, told them how the folks back home feel on the subject of price control, and urged them to vote for the continuation of the Act as it now stands. Mary Fisher accompanied a delegation of Pennsylvanians who saw Sen. James J. Davis and Rep. Samuel Weiss. The Senator refused to commit himself on the issue, but Rep. Weiss, who is one of the backers of the Consumer's Committee of Congressmen, told the delegates that he was behind them on the fight and congratulated them on their understanding of the problems of price control. He urged them to follow up on what they had learned at the Conference with action at home.

Sister Hopkins visited Congressmen John Folger of North Carolina, and received from him a commitment that he would back the passage of the Act.

UCAPAWA ON THE BEAM

Both delegates attended a meeting for the CIO visitors to the Conference, held at the National CIO office on Wednesday evening. Velma Hopkins told those present what UCAPAWA has done to enforce price control in Winston-Salem. She struck a sympathetic note which brought cheers from the other delegates when she said:

"Our Union members are aware of what price control means, and we know that it affects us personally. We have fought for grade labelling, for subsidies and for price ceilings. More than that, we realize that all these battles may be in vain unless we get a liberal Congress in the November election which will back us up. We're working on that. We're registering our members to vote, and I can guarantee that there will be 2,000 votes on the books in Winston-Salem this year that were never there before."

(For more news on Price Control, see Page 5.)

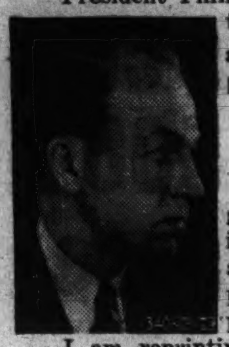
Facing Our Problems

CIO Proposals To World Labor Conference

By DONALD HENDERSON, *General President*

ON JUNE 5, labor organizations including the CIO, representing over 45 million workers throughout the world will meet in London at a World Labor Congress.

President Philip Murray has submitted a series of proposals in the name of the CIO for this Congress to consider and act upon. These proposals thus express and have the support of all CIO unions and members.



Labor's World Front

President Murray says this World Labor Congress marks "an historic moment." This Congress is labor's supreme effort to mobilize its forces on a world scale to win the war, to guarantee a just peoples' peace and to formulate proposals for full participation in the post-war reconstruction period.

I am reprinting the proposals for this World Labor Congress made by President Murray and already submitted to Sir Walter Citrine, who originally called this Congress.

Between now and June 5, when this Congress convenes, each local, at one or more membership meetings, all Executive Boards and officers of locals, and the International, and all Area Organizing Committees, should take time to discuss thoroughly the importance of this World Labor Congress, and the meaning and significance of the proposals submitted by President Murray to the World Labor Congress.

The CIO and American labor now joins hands, through this World Congress, to establish a World Labor Front which alone can prevent a repetition of the destructive peace and post-war world following World War No. 1. We now join hands on a World Labor Front to enter decisively into winning the war, into all post-war reconstruction and to all peace conferences. Organized labor on a world scale must sit at the head of the table, and not merely receive a few crumbs after the dishes have been removed.

CIO Proposals

I. FURTHERANCE OF THE ALLIED WAR EFFORT.

A. Interchange of ideas and suggested methods for increasing production of war materials.

B. Participation of labor in governments of United Nations for purpose of mobilizing support of people for decisive offensive against the Axis.

C. Coordinated program for combatting activities of Axis forces and agents for negotiated peace.

D. Policies to be adopted in reoccupied territory with views of mobilizing support of people in war effort. This subject to cover:

1. **Immediate establishment of freedoms of speech, press, assembly, religion, political association, and to organize labor unions.**
2. **Governments in such territories to have support of people.**
3. **Utilization of available productive facilities and manpower within the territory to meet needs of the people and to assist in war effort.**

II. REPRESENTATION OF TRADE UNIONS AT PREPARATORY COMMISSIONS OR CONFERENCES.

A. Establishment of adequate governmental agency within each nation to provide plans for post-war problems with adequate labor representation.

B. Provision for labor representation on all international commissions relating to such subjects as relief, rehabilitation, and post-war reconstruction.

C. Provision for labor representation with delegation from each United Nation to the peace conference.

III. POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION.

A. Establishment of international trade union movement with participation on the part of the labor organizations from all of the United Nations and after victory from all other nations desiring to so participate.

B. Establishment in occupied and enemy nations of basic freedoms of press, speech, assembly, religion, political association, and to organize trade unions.

C. Complete elimination in occupied and enemy nations of every phase of Nazism, Fascism, or Japanese militarism.

D. Early opportunity to be afforded to the people of the occupied countries to determine their own elected officials and government.

E. Program for adequate social security, decent housing, and medical care to be sponsored in each nation for benefit of all the people.

F. Establishment of international machinery to provide adequate financing to permit devastated nations and backward countries to purchase necessary material and supplies for rehabilitation and development of decent economy for the benefit of the people.

G. Development of program to be applied in each nation to secure full employment with decent standard of living for all who are able and willing to work.

H. Cementing of firm unity among the United Nations to assure continuity of peace, equal access to raw materials and international markets, and full encouragement to the development of democratic principles throughout the world. Must plan for raising of the standards of the people throughout the world rather than the deterioration of the standards of any one nation through unfair competition on the part of others.

There must be a complete termination of all international cartels seeking to restrict production or the full development of domestic and international trade. International organized labor must undertake the primary responsibility of making certain that no conditions be permitted to arise which may lay the basis for any wars among the nations in the world.

IV. ATTITUDE OF TRADE UNIONS TOWARD ANTICIPATED PEACE SETTLEMENT.

A. The right of the peoples within each nation, whether large or small and without any distinction by reason of race, creed or color to enjoy the Four Freedoms. Each nation shall be afforded full and complete opportunity to so develop its domestic economy as to provide a decent standard of living for the people.

B. Problems regarding attitude of the United Nations toward Germany and Japan and their satellites.

Get The Big Ones, Uncle!

Chicago, Ill. (FP)—It's a shame the way the government is pushing those patriotic nationalists around.

That's the way The Chicago Tribune sizes up the trial of 30 alleged Hitler lovers in Washington, including Publisher Robert R. McCormick's pal, Lizzie Dilling, author of the Red Network, bible of seditionists.

Mrs. Lois LaFayette Washburn, who gave the Nazi salute and boasted that she is a fascist, is remembered in Chicago for saying at a public forum that "after the revolution, we will shoot all CIO union leaders against a stone wall." She included the president of the CIO in her angry denunciation of a speech dealing with the labor press.

"Don't you worry about the labor press," she told the speaker. "There won't be any labor press when we get through with you. You fellows will all be lined up in front of a ston wall, too."

You could almost hear the guns barking as she talked in a shrill staccato tone.

Turn The Heat On Congress

Poll Tax Repeal (HR 7)

Would guarantee the constitutional right to vote to 10,000,000 Americans. The bill is out of committee, but is being subjected to a silent filibuster, which refuses to bring it before the Senate for a vote. (See story, page 6:)

ACTION: Keep an eye on the progress of the bill. If it has not come up on the floor of the Senate for a vote by May 1, wire Senators Mead and Barkley to place it on the calendar. Demand that your two Senators vote for cloture (a limit on debate) and oppose all amendments.

Price Control

Renewal of the Price Control Act due to expire June 30. Congressmen have threatened 30 amendments which will cripple OPA, freeze wages by writing 15 percent Little Steel formula into the law, and abolish subsidies. Hearings now being held in the House and Senate banking and currency committees.

ACTION: Write your Senators and Congressmen to rewrite new act on time without crippling amendments.

Redefinition of Agriculture to Include Industrial Workers (HR 4389)

One of five bills of its kind, designed to deprive packing shed workers of their rights by defining them as agricultural workers. Introduced by Representative John Phillips (R.) of California. Now in the House agricultural committee.

ACTION: If this bill is defeated the other 4 will go down with it. Write Congressman John Phillips and your own Congressman opposing the bill as a threat to all workers.

Soldier's Vote Amendment (S 1828)

Gives Servicemen Federal Ballot if State ballot doesn't arrive, bypasses State red tape. Suggested by FDR. Now in the Senate committee on privileges and elections (Green, D., R. I., Chairman).

ACTION: Urge your Senators and Representatives to support, ask for early hearings.

Address all Congressmen: House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.
Address all Senators: Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Fighting For Democracy in the South — A Letter Against a Conspiracy

Charleston, S. C. — Attacking the suggestion of the Charleston News and Courier that the State abolish its primary elections, Int. Rep. Frank Green charged the newspaper with organizing a conspiracy to circumvent the recent Supreme Court decision against racial discrimination in elections. Green's letter, which was printed in the News and Courier, said in part:

"The decision of the Supreme Court, overruling its decision of 1935, allowing Negroes in Texas the right to vote in Democratic primaries, is not surprising. Democracy is not static. If it were, we would still be ruled by kings with no voice at all in our government. It is even less surprising that our Supreme Court would make a decision extending democracy while we are in a life and death struggle for its preservation. The whole history of democracy is a series of struggles for the right of all men to have an equal voice in their government."

UCAPAWA News

Published Twice Monthly
at 838 Greenwich St., N. Y. C.
by the
United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations.
1505 Race Street, Philadelphia, 2 Pa.

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Editor: Cornelia M. Anderson
Subscription:
$1 a year to non-members

Entered as second class matter January 28, 1943, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

NEXT ISSUE: Material must be in by 9 a.m., May 8th.

Vol. IV, No. 9 May 1, 1944

Nation Defense Fund

CONTRIBUTIONS to the Otis Nation Defense Fund continue to pour in from unions throughout the country. Nation, an International Vice-President, was framed and sentenced by the Florida courts to one year in jail last October. What was his "terrible deed"? Simply helping the government find desperately needed workers for the war essential tomato pack at Campbell Soup, Camden, N. J.—without a state license as a labor recruiter! The funds are being raised for his appeal—a campaign which is vital to the CIO.

All contributions should be forwarded to: Otis Nation Defense Fund, Florida State CIO Council, 433 West Bay Street, Jacksonville 2, Fla.

Since the March 1 issue of the News, the following contributions have been reported by the fund:

UCAPAWA Local 3, Los Angeles, Calif.	$ 10.00
UCAPAWA Local 91, New Orleans, La.	5.00
UCAPAWA Local 95, Trenton, N. J.	25.00
UCAPAWA Local 297, Toledo, Ohio	5.00
UCAPAWA Local 350, Richmond, Va.	20.00
Aluminum Workers Local 24, Bridgeport, Conn.	25.00
Steelworkers Local 2603, Lackawanna, N. Y.	20.00
Furniture Workers Local 331, Jasper, Ind.	5.00
Electrical, Radio, Machine Workers, Local 475, Brooklyn, N. Y.	10.00
Steelworkers Local 1543, Indianapolis, Ind.	10.00
Rubber Workers Local 191, Camden, N. J.	10.00
Electrical Workers Local 425, Long Island City, N. J.	10.00
Muncie Foundry Local 242, Muncie, Ind.	5.00
Indiana State CIO Women's Auxilaries, Gary, Ind.	5.00
Steelworkers Local 1009, Gary, Ind.	15.00
Chemical Workers Local 266, El Cerrito, Calif.	5.00
Farm Equipment Workers Local 119, La Porte, Ind.	5.00
Auto Workers Local 662, Anderson, Ind.	25.00
Woodworkers Local 2-46, Bellingham, Wash.	5.00
Gogebic Industrial Union Council, Wakefield, Mich.	10.00
State, County, Municipal Workers Local 241, Indianapolis, Ind.	10.00
Electrical Workers Local 1412, Oakland, Calif.	5.00
Auto Workers Local 599, Flint, Mich.	100.00
Clothing Workers Local 145, Indianapolis, Ind.	10.00
Electrical Workers Local 1111, Milwaukee, Wis.	5.00
Gas, Coke & Chemical Workers Local 120, East Chicago, Ind.	10.00
TOTAL	$ 370.00
Previous Contributions	1,716.60
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE	$ 2,086.60

CIO POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Canned Salmon

(Continued from Page 1)

to Alaska residents working in the Bristol Bay canneries. In addition, these Alaska residents working in the Bristol Bay canneries were granted a minimum guarantee of $300 plus the 7 per cent increase awarded the other workers, Mr. Noble explained.

The Board further instructed the parties that the 1943 agreement, when signed, be extended until the negotiation of a 1944 bargaining agreement.

The signing of the 1943 contract has been in dispute between the parties since May of last year, although the company has paid the 7 per cent increase as awarded by the Board. However, they object to terming the increase a basic wage increase as awarded by the Board, but wish to consider it a war bonus. It is their contention that they need not sign new contracts because the 1942 contract contains a war supplement which provides that union and management will make no changes for the duration except for war bonuses and war risk insurance.

FISH CANNING AND SEAFOOD DIVISION

Raises From 5c To 15c Granted At Van Camp

By Dixie Tiller, Int. Vice-Pres. and Local 64 Member

San Diego, Calif.—Boasting the highest fish cannery rates in the world, Local 64 won War Labor Board approval for increases ranging from 5c to 15c per hour at the Van Camp Sea Food Co. on April 15.

The joint request for wage increases, made by the Union and the Company last August, was submitted on the grounds that increases had been granted to the other canneries in San Diego. Approval was expected immediately, but the WLB insisted that an incentive plan be worked out, and the War Production Board was called in. It was found, however, that the peculiar nature of the fish canning industry made it impossible to work out a plan agreeable both to the Union and the Company.

VARYING INCREASES

Because basic rates in the plant had been increased in 1942, but no comparable increase had been made in piece rates, the present WLB order permits a greater piece-rate increase, amounting to 30%. The 15c increases were won for the retort operator, tuna butcher and maintenance men, whose pay is now $1.25, $1.40 and $1.25 per hour respectively. Fishroom employees were raised from 90c to $1.00 per hour. Cleaners and packers, chain ladies, punch girls, floor men, hoistmen, chief label machine operator, label machine operator and tuna cooker operator all received 5c increases.

OTHER RATES

In addition the piece rate for cleaning was increased from 15c to 18c per unit and all packing rates went up 4c per unit, with a range of from 12c to 21c per unit, depending on size and kind of pack.

The weekly earnings of weighmen and engineers were increased by $2.50 per week.

All increases are retroactive to July 2, 1943, date of expiration of the last contract.

RATES STILL HIGHEST

One of the big arguments before the Board was the insistence of the Union that the historical differential between the Van Camp cannery, which is organized in the CIO, and the other four canneries in the AFL, be maintained, since CIO wages have always been higher. The Board finally agreed, so Local 64 still maintains its record of having the highest fish cannery rates in the world. And Van Camp still retains time-and-a-half after 8 hours or after 5 p.m., which was obtained in 1940, and which the AFL canneries still do not have.

Local 222 Joins Council In Alaska

Petersburg, Alaska—Joining the rest of the Alaska fish cannery locals in the Southeastern Alaska Cannery Workers' Council, Local 222 took action at its latest membership meeting to participate fully in UCAPAWA's program of consolidation and organization for the area.

The Local heard the plans of UCAPAWA and the Council explained by Int. Rep. Rose Dellama, who is now in Alaska, and voted to take part in the financing of the work of the Council. The membership also elected a Publicity Committee, consisting of Elias Reyes and Margie Tagaban, to supply news of the Local to UCAPAWA News and to the Council Bulletin.

TO RENEW CONTRACT

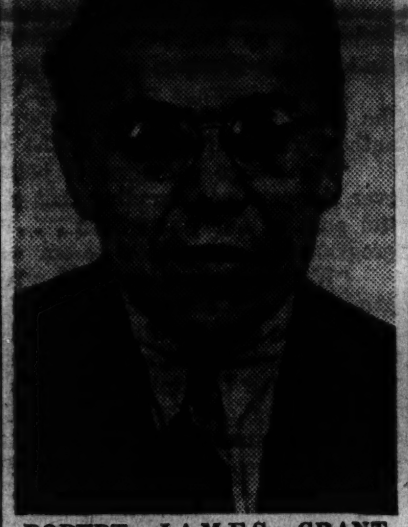
On the negotiating front, shrimp cannery workers who are members of Local 222 voted recently to renew last year's contract, retaining last year's wages and working conditions. Shrimp pickers last year got an increase of 3 cents per pound for picking shrimp, bringing pay up to 18 cents per pound; and hourly workers got an increase of 25 cents per hour, bringing their pay up to $1.00 per hour.

The Committee which will call on the companies to get renewal of the contract will consist of Ann McDonald, Business Agent; Stella Harris, President; and Annie Bollen.

SALMON PROJECT

The members of Local 222 demonstrated their interest in the welfare of their community when they voted at their last meeting to contribute $15 toward a civic project which is expected to increase the supply of salmon in this area. The money, which all Petersburg organizations were asked to contribute, will be used to step up the waterfalls in one of the rivers here, to make it possible for salmon to leap the falls in order to spawn.

UNION LEADERS IN THE ALASKA CANNERIES



ROBERT JAMES GRANT, Secy.-Treas. of Local 263 in Hoonah, was born in Dundas Bay, Icy Straits, Alaska. When he started working in the fish canneries, pay was as low as 10c per hour and the working day was 11 hours long. He has been a cannery worker or fisherman ever since 1913.

SUSAN BROWN, Secy. of Local 263, is 25 years old, and was born and raised in Hoonah. She has been working in the canneries since she was 13 years old and got 20c per hour for a 10 hour day. Like the other Union leaders shown here, she is an Alaskan native and has helped UCAPAWA win the benefits the workers now enjoy.

MARGARET WANAMAKER, Vice-Pres. of Local 269 in Juneau, is also secretary of the Alaska Native Sisterhood of Juneau. She was born in Sitka, Alaska, in 1890, and is the mother of 7 children. One son, William, is in the Navy. She first started working in the canneries in 1910.

RUTH HAYES, Business Agent of Local 269, was literally born in a cannery, since her mother and father were working at the Funter Bay Cannery, near Hawk Inlet, at the time she was born. Sister Hayes is shown here with two of her five children, Erma and Ruth. Her husband, Ernest L. Hayes, is also active in union work. A cannery worker since 1922, Sister Hayes has been largely instrumental in organizing her Local and has been its Business Agent for the past 5 years.

Ketchikan Local Fights Against Discrimination

(From the Southeastern Alaska Cannery Workers Bulletin)

Ketchikan, Alaska—Reports of discrimination against natives by the USO and the Alaska Steamship Co., brought action from the membership of Local 237, which passed a motion asking the CIO Council to elect a delegation to call on these organizations to protest their discriminatory actions.

TURNED AWAY AT USO

The two cases were reported by Marguerite Hansen, Business Agent of Local 237, and Irene Inman. The first case involved the USO. One of our members, who had been recommended by the policewoman to attend a USO dance at the Army base, was humiliated and embarrassed by the Associate Director of the USO who publicly told her she was not supposed to go to the dance because she was a native.

This case is particularly flagrant because the USO is supported by CIO members in Alaska and the States who contribute to the CIO War Relief Fund. Also, the girl's husband is in the Army, stationed at the base.

REFUSED PASSAGE

The second case involved the Alaska S. S. Co., where a native girl was denied transportation on five successive ships.

It was not until Irene Inman and the girl in question approached some white women who were passengers and who championed her, that she was able to get transportation back to Kodiak, where she was due on a U. S. Army job three weeks previously.

It is the policy of UCAPAWA to fight discrimination, both on the job and wherever else it may be practiced, and it is the intention of the local to press this fight.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE DIVISION

CAL PAK LOCALS WIN "A" AWARD

DeKalb, Ill.—"We'll make this year's pack the biggest pack ever produced," said Locals 17 and 18 when the Union won bargaining rights at the California Packing Corp. plants in DeKalb and Rochelle just one year ago.

Cal Pak plants 109, 110 and 111 were the first canning plants in the State to receive the "A" Award from the War Food Administration for outstanding production and high quality standards of the products processed. The picture above, taken at the recent "A" Award ceremonies at DeKalb shows Local 18 Pres. W. H. Wheeler (second from right) accepting the award pins for the employees from Edward G. Miller, a wounded veteran and Cal Pak employee. In the background are E. A. Pollock of the WFA; Col. B. J. Finnan of the Chicago Quartermasters Depot; and Curtis Dowden, Local 18 Fin. Secy.

"This accomplishment again shows what the fine cooperation of a good Union can do," said Pres. Wheeler. "Without the help of the Union, it would have been an uphill business for our plant to have made such a fine record." Local 17 at Rochelle took part in similar "A" Award ceremonies on the same day.

Local 155 Set For Raising Tomato Crop

By Eldon Gwin, Pres. Local 155

Oskaloosa, Iowa—Local 55 is getting ready to fight on the home front. Our tractors and machinery have been overhauled, and the plowing of ground has been started. The Marshall Canning Co. has out about 325 acres of ground, and we will start the setting of tomato plants about the 5th of May.

The membership of our Local will work night and day to help get food to the soldiers on the fighting front. We also have several of our own members in the service. The officers of Local 155 have made it a practice to make up a gift package to each member going into the armed forces.

One of our Brothers, Sgt. James Inman of the Marines, was back here recently from the Southwest Pacific on sick leave, and we had the honor of greeting him. Sgt. Inman, who has seen plenty of action, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Inman, Sr. His mother is the Financial Secretary of Local 155.

We are hoping for a good food year.

Notes from Locals

Kuner-Empson Elects

113 Longmont, Colo.—Officers elected April 12 by Local 113 at the Kuner-Empson cannery here are: Guy Greenly, Pres.; Glenn R. Mathews, Vice-Pres.; Lucy Pringle, Secy.-Treas.; Carrie Jackson, Rec. Sec. and Ted Green, Floor Guard.

Trustees chosen by the Local are: Esau Beresford, Burt Boote, Helen Hoff, Ed Strong, Alice Smith and Lale Jones.

Negotiating Contracts

7-2 Seattle, Wash.—Agreements of Local 7-2 with food processors here expired March 1, and our Local has held preliminary meetings on new contracts, the new agreements to be dated back to March 1.

By Florence Palmer, Press Agt.

People Will Observe National Price Control Week, May 17-24

Washington, D. C. (FP)—A call for national observance of Price Control Week May 17-24 was issued here April 20 by the Citizens' Emergency Conference to Save Price Control at the end of a two-day session.

The conferees, drawn from all sections of the U. S. and representing consumer councils, churches, farmers, labor and plain housewives, saw more than 200 Senators and Representatives in behalf of extension of the Price Control Act.

In a general resolution given to the House banking & currency committee by Donald Montgomery, Consumer Representative of the United Auto Workers (CIO), the Conference stated its general policy.

Asking passage of the Act without any weakening amendments, the resolution also asked Congress to supply adequate funds and authority for enforcement of the legislation.

"We pledge ourselves to bring home to the American public an ever sharper understanding that effective control of prices is an essential part of our war effort . . . Interference with our price control program is a direct blow to our war effort.

"We recommend to those groups we represent and to all other groups in our communities that we join together in an immediate program to save the Price Control Act. To this end we also recommend that the national organizations participating in this Conference agree upon a Price Control Week, May 17-24, when all groups in communities throughout the country will hold joint public meetings to forestall the destruction of price control and will ask our mayors to proclaim that week as Price Control Week in our cities."

Calif. Congressmen Get UCAPAWA 'Report Cards'

Los Angeles, Calif.—California Congressmen and Senators were given "report cards" by their UCAPAWA constituents recently, in the form of letters telling them what the Union members think of their voting records. With words of praise for their good votes and severe condemnation for their bad ones, these messages are a useful method of keeping Congressmen on their toes.

Written by Reg. Dir. Dixie Tiller, the letters praised the records of Congressmen Harless, Voorhis and Murdock who voted correctly on the UNRRA appropriation, the soldier vote, subsidy veto and tax veto. The hope was expressed "that you continue to vote for the win-the-war program of our President and assure you of our fullest support."

RAP ABSENTEES

Rep. Gearhart and Sens. Downey and Johnson, on the other hand, received sharp criticism of their "politics as-usual" attitude. "It seems," said the letters to the Senators, "that 'absentees' are far more numerous in the halls of our Congress than in the work-shops, mines and fields of our nation."

Flash—Another 'A'

Longmont, Colo.—Congratulations from Pres. Donald Henderson on behalf of the entire Union were sent to Local 113 here, upon their achievement of the coveted War Food Administration "A" Award.

At the presentation ceremonies held in Brighton, Colo., on March 11, Glenn R. Mathews, executive board member and Chief Steward of Local 113, made the acceptance speech on behalf of the employees of the Kuner-Empson canneries.

AREA Committees At Work

Illinois Meets

MEETING at Morrison, Ill., on March 26, the Illinois Organizing Committee discussed the use and advantages of maintenance of membership in consolidating the Union.

Political discussion was centered around the the Anti-Poll Tax Bill, and motions were adopted for wires to be sent by the Committee and by each local to Senators, urging their support for this measure.

Locals 13, 18, 52 and 194 were represented. Int. Rep. Joseph Carfero chaired the meeting.

By Tom Smith, Acting Secy.

Mike Convinces Polly

"JOIN the CIO," said UCAPAWA Mike, "and become 5 million times stronger than you are now."

"How come?" asked Polly Doolittle as she fingered an application card.

"Well, take the question of wartime prices," said Mike. "Every worker knows what it will mean to him if there is no price control. All the wage increases that we can possibly fight for will mean nothing—because prices of food and clothing will go way up beyond our reach."

"Sure," said Polly. "I want price control. But what can I do if my grocer asks 60c for a pound of butter?"

"You can't do anything by yourself," said Mike. "But when you join a union of 5 million workers, that's a different story. Now look here," he added, pulling a copy of UCAPAWA News out of his pocket. "Members of our union, girls like you, went to Washington to represent UCAPAWA at the price control conference held there last week. They visited Congressmen and told them that every member of UCAPAWA insists that they support real price control. All the other CIO unions had representatives in Washington, too.

"You see," Mike smiled, as Polly began to put her name down on the card. "One person can't keep the price of butter down. But 5 million together can make a big impression!"

"Impossible To Live . . . If Prices Go Up"

DOLLARS-and-cents reasons why the Price Control Act must be saved were presented by Velma Hopkins, one of the UCAPAWA delegates at the citizens' Emergency Conference held in Washington on April 19 and 20. A stemmery worker at R. J. Reynolds, Sister Hopkins told the delegates:

VELMA HOPKINS

"I make 46c an hour, which amounts to about 17 or 18 dollars a week. Out of this I must pay $3 a week for the rent of a small apartment without a bath. My food bills come to a minimum of $10 a week, if I buy only the absolute necessities. From my pay each week I have $1 deducted for War Bonds, $2.10 for income tax, 25c for insurance and 50c for social security.

"You can see that my pay check is spent each week for only the barest necessities of life. My budget makes no allowances for clothing, recreation or emergencies.

"If the Price Control Act is not passed, or if it is passed with crippling amendments, prices will go up. I, and thousands of other industrial workers like me, making the same wages I make, will find it impossible to live. Our wage-scales are frozen—we find it hard enough to make ends meet now—and if prices go up we know that we won't be able to manage. So we're asking you Congressmen to do something about this."

(See Story, Page 1.)

PAT VERBLE and ROBBIE MAE RIDDICK—See story below.

Southern Conference

Atlanta, Ga.—April 15 and 16, 1944

Union Schools Proposed For Southeastern Area

(Continued from Page 1)

organizations to inform the people on how to register and vote.

WINNING BOARD CASES

Questions of allowing adequate wage adjustments and speed in handling cases were discussed with M. T. Van Hecke, Chairman of the Fourth Regional War Labor Board, and other Board members who attended the Saturday afternoon session. In preparation for the discussion, Elizabeth Sasuly, Legislative Director, had surveyed War Labor Board matters with the delegates, and heard their reports on their experiences with the Board.

Paul L. Styles, Director of the Division of Disputes of the RWLB, and Frank McCallister, assistant to CIO members of the Board, urged the locals to submit full evidence in their cases, adding that UCAPAWA's record on preparing substantial briefs was good. Alvin B. Biscoe, Director of the Division of Wage Stabilization, indicated that voluntary wage cases calling for a 50c minimum are allowed automatically by the Board.

"ROLL CIO ON"

Special emphasis was laid by the conference on organizing drives in tobacco in the Carolinas and Virginia, as well as in food plants in those areas, extension of cotton seed oil mill organization throughout the South, and pressing the citrus organizing drive in Florida.

Spirit of the march forward was expressed by the Reynolds workers who had the delegates join in one of their favorite songs, "We're going to roll CIO on." This was also a tribute to the signing of the Reynolds contract, biggest single victory of UCAPAWA in the South so far.

Proposals for a tri-state—Virginia, and No. and So. Carolina—area committee to draw those locals closer together, and for a series of schools in the newly organized areas in the South were enthusiastically received by the conference. In speaking for the resolution on these schools, Henderson emphasized especially training of shop stewards so they may have every assistance in developing the union "know-how" in winning grievances.

Resolutions, in addition to those listed above, included support to the Steelworkers in their precedent setting fight to change the "Little Steel" formula; recommendation that UCAPAWA use political action pledge cards, as proposed by Local 91; support to the Congressional Committee to Protect the Consumer in its fight for price control; and endorsement of the purpose of the Peoples' Congress of Applied Religion. Miss Frances Price outlined the work of the Congress in a talk before the conference.

Other speakers were: George N. Smolikoff, Florida State CIO Organizer; William Smith, Southeastern Regional Director of the Shipbuilders' union; Lucy Randolph Mason, Southern CIO Publicity Representative; W. A. Copeland, CIO Field Representative in Memphis, Tenn.; Charles Gillam, CIO Regional Director in Georgia who welcomed the conference, and Connie Anderson, UCAPAWA Publicity Director.

Theodosia Simpson, UCAPAWA Field Representative in Winston-Salem, N. C., listens intently. She was a machine operator in the Reynolds plant before she joined the UCAPAWA staff.

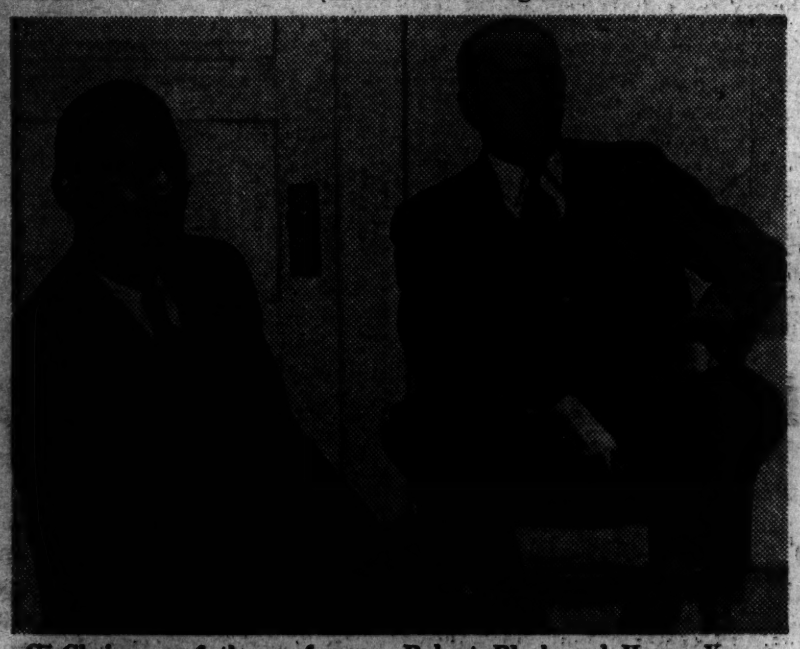
18 Women Delegates Are Right Up In Front Seats

WOMEN at the Southern conference — a total of 18 delegates — were living proof that women are right up in the forefront of Union work—and especially in UCAPAWA.

"With many men going into the Army," said Pat Verble (above left in the picture) "our women members of Local 9 are taking an active part in the Local." Women are on the Executive Board for the first time, she reported, filling six of the 15 places. "And they are very competent and capable," she remarked. Pat Verble herself a shed worker, is no back-seater, having an enviable record as a leader in California and in Florida where she is now an International Representative.

Robbie Mae Riddick (above right in the picture) is President of the Planter's Peanut local where women have held responsible positions ever since the beginning of the local back in 1937. Perhaps this accounts for Sister Riddick's extra forthright attitude about women. She claims that you "have to work so hard to get a man to do things, that women get disgusted and take the forefront." She says that women pay their poll tax and register to vote with enthusiasm, for they have "learned through the nose that you have to vote to get what you want."

And there were 16 more women like this at the conference, full of confidence, energy and faith in UCAPAWA and the future — if we all pull together, men and women together.



Co-Chairmen of the conference, Robert Black and Harry Koger, retire to one side when the three men from the Regional War Labor Board settle up front for a three-hour session on the how's and why's of WLB policy.

Some "Camel" cigarette delegates from Winston-Salem, N. C., ponder deeply the discussion of the CIO fight for price control. These are (l. to r.): S. B. Templeton, Clara Hutcherson, Ernest Johnson, Etta Hobson and Vivian Bruce. The welfare of 12,000 Reynolds workers depends on them and their fellow-leaders from UCAPAWA there.

Delegates from 7 States

HERE is the bunch which swung into Atlanta, Georgia, on April 15, coming from Virginia, down to Florida, from New Orleans, up to Memphis:

PLANTER'S PEANUT, SUFFOLK, VA. Local 26 which also includes seven smaller peanut plants. Delegates: Bobbie Mae Riddick, Pres.; Isac J. Baker, Ex. Board member; and Leroy Harris, Vice-Pres. About 3,500 workers under contract.

EXPORT TOBACCO AND LARUS STEMMERY, RICHMOND, VA. Local 45. Delegates: Carrie Monroe, Rec. Secy.; Bennie Rouse, Chief Shop Steward; F. W. Perry, Chairman, Trustee Board; Mary Davenport, Shop Steward; Carrie Ryland, Asst. Shop Steward; and Int. Rep. A. J. Marcus, representing the Virginia Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee. About 600 workers under contract.

R. J. REYNOLDS AND PIEDMONT, WINSTON AND EXPORT LEAF HOUSES, WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. Delegates: Robert Latham representing the leaf houses; Reynolds Committee members: Robert Black, Ernest Johnson, S. B. Templeton, Carolina Clark, Velma Hopkins, Vivian Bruce and Etta Hobson; International Representatives Frank Hargrove and William De Berry; and Field Representatives Clara Hutcherson and Theodosia Simpson. Some 14,000 workers under contract.

AMERICAN TOBACCO, CHARLESTON, S. C. Delegates: S. B. Graham, Shop Steward and Frank Green, Int. Rep. Some 2,000 workers under contract.

FLORIDA CITRUS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, ORLANDO, FLA. Delegates: William R. Fischer, Local 4 Pres.; Felix James, Shop Steward at American Laundry; Anne Mathews and Clarence Forsyth, Int. Reps.; and Beatrice McCrea, Field Rep. Some 350 workers under contract.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SHEDS, PERRINE, FLA. Local 9. Delegate: Int. Rep. Pat Verble. Some 650 members in the Local.

LELAND OIL MILL, LELAND, MISS. Local 189. Delegate: G. W. Morris, Pres. About 75 workers represented.

TRELLAS CIGAR AND PENNICK AND FORD, NEW ORLEANS, LA. Local 91. Delegates: Stella De Lille, Rec. Secy.; Regina Bozonier, Sec. Treas.; and Emile Bouvier. About 600 workers under contract.

SWIFT'S REFINERY, HARVEY, LA. Local 309. Delegates: Claude P. Le Blanc and Int. Rep. Harry Koger. Some 100 workers under contract.

BUCKEYE COTTON OIL AND 17 OTHER SHOPS, MEMPHIS, TENN. Local 19. Delegates: Iness Rodgers, Shop Steward; John Mack Dyson, Pres.; and Reuel Stanfield, Business Agent. Some 3,500 workers under contract.

"How long will it take to get our Reynolds War Labor Board case settled?" asked Velma Hopkins of the Board members, thereby setting off a lively discussion on speed of settling cases. A stemmery worker in the giant "Camel" plant in Winston-Salem, N. C., Velma Hopkins is one of the leading Committee members there.

Anti-Poll Tax Bill Fight Grows Hot

SENATE supporters of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill (HR 7) saved the filibusterers another whole week of windbagging by failing to keep their promise to bring the bill up on April 17 or 18. The bill has been hanging in mid-air since May 25, 1943, when the House passed the bill by 265 to 110. Each week of delay makes the poll-taxers ever stronger as the summer recess approaches.

As the News goes to press, Pat McCarran, chairman of the Senate judiciary committee, has promised to call up the bill on Tuesday, April 25. The previous promise had been for April 17, but McCarran just didn't come to Washington.

If it is brought up on April 25, then the fight against the actual, verbal filibuster starts, and the speed with which it is broken will be in direct relation to the expression which is given to the anger of the people.

Already advance alibis are being planted through chosen newspaper columnists and correspondents, by weak-kneed Senators anxious to avoid the issue. "Fear of not being able to get sufficient votes for cloture" is one of the favorite excuses for hedging and delay. But the realistic supporters of the bill have never expected that cloture would be voted immediately. There are a definite number of wavering Senatorial votes which can be swung by the reaction of the people's anger to the filibuster itself when it gets under way.

If the Senators who have pledged support to the bill will stand unflinching, if there is no treachery, HR 7 will become law before Congress recesses again. Your Senators must know that you know this. They have to know you know the score and will hold them strictly accountable.

"Beginning now, I deliver your paper to-day and salvage it to-morrow!"

DRIED FRUIT AND NUT DIVISION

Walnut Incentive Plan Averages 15% Increase

By O. H. Johnston, Vice-Pres. Local 3

Fullerton Calif.—The incentive plan, which started at the California Walnut Growers plant here last November, has shown very good results during the cull season.

The last period in culls averaged a 17 percent increase in production and pay to all shelling plant employees. Foremen and supervisory forces were included in the agreement, since management and Union felt that if all were included, the plan would work out successfully.

ALL WORK TOGETHER

It has proven just that, for both the workers and supervisory forces seem to be cooperating better than ever before.

The Union agrees with management, however, that greater improvements can be made if absenteeism is cut down. The Union is not upholding anyone who stays home during this critical period unless he or she is actually sick and unable to report for work. Those who have stayed on the job every day and worked hard enough to bring up the percentages in production and wages certainly deserve praise from everyone.

All cull incentive pay periods have averaged 15 percent, or 9c more per hour for the women and 11¼c to 12c per hour for the men. These amounts are average increases paid each man and woman for each hour he or she actually worked from the time the plan went into effect in November to the end of the cull season this year, on April 13.

Total pay for the women before any deductions were made, provjding they worked all the 8-hour days in the last period, was $24.48. That's almost six weeks' pay for five weeks' work.

BE ON THE JOB!

Let's all cooperate by coming to work daily until all the merchantable nuts are processed and show the Company we can and will eliminate this absenteeism. Be on the job every morning by 7 o'clock, for we all still have the biggest job of our lives to do—win this war!

"And then in my spare time....."

Local 186 Oils Registration Drive Wheels

Philadelphia, Pa.—Sleeves were rolled up by four members of Local 186 here on April 20, as they got to work on making out political action cards for all members of the Local. This is the first move in the register-to-vote campaign which Local 186 is determined will result in 100% registration to vote and—barring serious illness—100% turnout at the polls next November.

Charlie Munn, quiet and efficient Fin. Secy. of the Local was at work at the desk handing out the names and addresses of the members to Anna Schmolze and Frances Harrington, who put them on cards—as fast as Int. Rep. Carmen Parent, acting Local 186 Business Agent could get them cranked off the mimeograph machine.

Bro. Munn remarked that he was a voter from way back—last election, he said, he got out of his sick bed to vote for Roosevelt.

Sister Harrington, Rec. Secy., will vote for the first time—and she is already registered. Sister Schmolze, a Shop Steward at Lummis Peanut, is too young to vote herself, but is all "set" to put her back into helping those who are eligible to vote.

All agree that Local 186 is not going to sit by during an election like this when the very life of the Union and the well-being of the American people is at stake.

Your Local Is Challenged

Philadelphia, Pa.—A challenge to other UCAPAWA locals on political action was issued April 20, by Carmen Parente, Int. Rep. acting as Business Agent of Local 186 here in the name of the Local.

"We are at work listing the names and addresses of all our members. We will send these cards to the Political Action Committee here in Philadelphia and they will find out for us who is registered to vote.

"Then we will take the cards of those who are not registered, and our Political Action Committee will start a campaign for the Stewards to check with each member who is not registered. We are aiming for 100% registration by the time of the November elections."

Parente said that they are challenging all other UCAPAWA locals to see who will be the first to have card records of everyone, telling who is registered and who is not. To beat Local 186, a local will have to report to the International:

1. That a card is made out for every member of the local.
2. How many of these people are registered and how many are not registered, giving exact figures.
3. The date when this first step in the political action job was completed, and plans which have been made to get all the members registered.

GRAIN PROCESSING DIVISION

Quaker Local Wins Night-Shift Premium

St. Joseph, Mo.—Maintenance of membership, mandatory check-off and night shift bonuses were awarded to Quaker Oats Local 125 by a directive order issued by the Regional War Labor Board on April 11. This represents substantial gains for the newest of UCAPAWA's five Quaker Oats locals, which won an NLRB election last summer.

The night shift premiums, effective as of the date of the directive order, are 3c for employees on the 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. shift, and 5c for employees on the 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. shift. About 700 year-round workers at this cereal plant will benefit from the WLB ruling.

Notes from the LOCALS

Vacations Feel Good

19 **Memphis, Tenn.**—We are getting our first vacation with pay here at the Happy Feed Mill — something that we have never had before. So you can see why we are so proud of our Local 19, and our members want nothing better than the CIO.

What makes us feel so good is that we are getting new members every day in our shop. Just as fast as the boss gets new men on the job, we sign them up and put one of those Union buttons on them. And we don't lose them.

By Jessie Harrison, Press Agent

New Officers

101 **York, Pa.**—The new officers elected at a recent meeting of Local 101 are: Raymond Little, Pres.; Henry Firey, Vice-Pres.; Allen Heltzel, Fin. Secy.; Harold Lefever, Rec. Sec.; Paul Shanabrook, Treas.; and George Smith, Door Guard.

The Negotiating Committee, which is now working on a new contract with J. W. Eshelman & Sans, consists of Lester Rauhauser, Clarence Werner, Paul Shanabrook, Harold Lefever, Raymond Little and George Hoke.

By Oscar G. Smith, Press Agent

Memphis Prepares 1,800 Vote Cards

Memphis, Tenn.— Register - to - vote cards were filled out 100% in the 21 shops under contract with Local 19. About 1,800 cards, recording each member's district, ward and precinct, were made. The card tells at a glance whether or not members and their families have registered to vote and paid their poll tax.

Note: Does this mean Local 19 came in first? — See bottom Col. 3.

First Contract In Hopkinsville Increases Pay

Hopkinsville, Ky. — With the signing of the first contract with the Hopkinsville Milling Co. recently, Local 195 chalked up a significant victory. Wage increases of 10c per hour for all classifications, retroactive to Feb. 11, 1944, were approved by the War Labor Board.

Maintenance of membership, dues check-off and a detailed grievance procedure were written into the agreement; as well as paid vacation of one-half week for six months employment and a full week for those employed one year or more.

NO DISCRIMINATION

A special clause which guarantees that "there shall be no discrimination against any worker because of race, color, creed or sex; equal pay shall prevail for equal work," is another important Union gain.

Congratulating the new Local on its hard-earned victory, Joseph D. Cannon, Acting Regional Director of the CIO, who helped to negotiate the contract, said "I think it is a compliment to the Negro race that members of that race have been the first to organize a real Local in Hopkinsville and achieve this great victory."

Signers of the contract for the Union were Samuel Collier, Pres. Local 195; Alfred Campbell, Fin. Secy.; Fairleigh Hubbard, Rec. Secy.; and Joseph D. Cannon.

Leaf Workers Are Happy, And how!—Here's Why

By Clyde Watts, Press Agent

Winston-Salem, N. C.—"It's going to be a hot time in the old union hall tonight" is the tune everyone is humming at Export Leaf, Winston Leaf and Piedmont Leaf tobacco companies these days. That is, everyone except the bosses.

Wage increases up to 10c an hour were handed down by the Fourth Regional War Labor Board of Atlanta, Georgia, on April 1, for the workers in all these plants, members of TWOC-CIO. The order was a reconsideration of a previous directive in which the Board directed a minimum of 46c in the three plants.

$140,000.00 BACK PAY

The present directive consists of a minimum wage of 50c an hour, retroactive to the date of signing of the contract, which was Sept. 23, 1943 at Export, Sept. 30 at Piedmont and October 14 at Winston. Some of the workers will receive as much as $150 in back pay. The total retroactive pay for the three leaf houses is estimated at $140,000.00 which is something to shout about. We were also granted a week's vacation with pay.

SHOUTING ALL NIGHT

While we are enjoying our victory, the bosses are pulling their hair out. Sister Henrietta Massey has a new walk now. Says Sister Massey, who is our leader at Piedmont, "I have shouted so until my feet are swollen. I have been wondering what I would do when this time came, and now that it has come, I don't know how to act. I have been shouting all night."

THINGS ARE CHANGING

I asked Sister Elizabeth People when she was going to stop talking and she replied, "If my son came home from the Navy somewhere in the Paicfic, I could not be much happier. I have been working here for 10 years and could not make a decent living, but thanks to the good old CIO things are changing now."

A big banquet is in the offing, and boy, what a time!

OUR POSTER — SPREAD IT AROUND!

YOUR VOTE - YOUR VOICE
You joined the union to have a voice in your job. You must register to vote so you can have a voice in your government.
Votes protect
DEMOCRACY
REGISTER NOW
UNITED CANNERY, AGRICULTURAL PACKING & ALLIED WORKERS OF AMERICA, C. I. O. REGISTER-TO-VOTE CAMPAIGN

This beautiful green and purple poster, together with two others similar to it, is now gracing UCAPAWA Union halls and plants. It is a patriotic appeal to all Americans to register to vote. No management should refuse to allow such posters to be displayed in the plants. It is not a partisan appeal, but like Bond buying and other community war activities, the register-to-vote campaign is backed by all true Americans. Extra posters may be had upon request to Secy.-Treas. Harold J. Lane at the National Office. 1505 Race St., Philadelphia 2, Pa.

RWLB Okays 5c Boost At Larus In Week's Time

Richmond, Va.—General wage increases of five cents an hour was awarded Larus stemmery workers in a little over a week after the form 10 asking for this voluntary increase was presented to the Fourth Regional War Labor Board. The decision came on April 18, and the increase is retroactive to March 21.

Annie Rogers, member of the Local 45 committee which negotiated the contract signed on March 30, expressed the pleasure of all the workers when she said "we are happy that we got this nickel increase promptly, that we didn't have to go through weeks of waiting and worry about this extra pay which we need so badly."

SECURITY, VACATIONS

Other members of the contract committee are Rosa White and Della West. They were assisted by Abe Marcus, Int. Rep. Besides the wage increase, the contract calls for Union security in the form of maintenance of membership and checkoff, two weeks' vacation after one year's work and a grievance procedure which ends with arbitration by a member of the U. S. Conciliation Service.

ELECTION SONG

(Tune: Maryland, My Maryand)

Election time is drawing near,
Register and vote, my friends.
Preserve the rights we hold so dear,
Register and vote, my friends.
We are the salt of Labor's earth,
We'll vote and give freedom new birth.
Come on, let's give it all we're worth,
Register and vote, my friends.

—By Theodosia Simpson, Field Rep.

TOBACCO DIVISION

Cigar Workers Dig Deep, Win Red Cross Citation

New York City—A Red Cross 1944 War Fund citation was awarded on April 20 to 550 members of Local 273, by John P. Stevens Jr., Red Cross chairman, in recognition of an "additional gifts" campaign carried out to help raise the balance needed to complete the city's $22,386,000 goal. The campaign, whic h raised $1,500.00, or approximately $3 per member, was undertaken by Local 273 cigar workers—one of the first unions in the city to respond to an urgent appeal issued by Mr. Stevens on April 11.

"The prompt response of the members of Local 273 to our Committee's plea for additional giving is heartening, especially since a majority of the members of this Union already had made gifts to the campaign and additional contributions must have meant sacrifice," Mr. Stevens said. "It demonstrates that a comparable response from other groups who either have not yet contributed or who are able to give again would very rapidly put our campaign over the top."

Pres. Donald Henderson wired the Local that the "Entire International is proud of the merited honor bestowed upon . . . its members."

"SO FREEDOM MAY LIVE"

According to Rafael Garcia, Secy.-Treas. of Local 273, the money was collected in more than 60 small shops making hand made cigars by committees organized under his direction. Like wildfire, the word spread that the success of the campaign depended upon the individual worker. Many employers cooperated. The result was an unprecedented success, according to Red Cross and CIO War Chest officials.

"The splendid response of our membership demonstrates that they are prepared to go all-out for the men and women of our armed forces," Brother Garcia said. "It is of more than passing interest to point out that a large proportion of the organized cigar workers of Local 273 are of foreign extraction, the majority of Spanish or Portuguese descent. They believe that nothing is too good for those who are fighting that democracy may live." (See Picture, Page 1.)

Shop Stewards Collect $740 For Red Cross

Winston-Salem, N. C.—In the recent Red Cross drive the workers at Reynolds Tobacco and Piedmont leaf turned in $740.64 for the Red Cross through the Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, following refusal of both managements to cooperate with the Union in the drive. The contributions were over and above amounts collected by the companies.

Richard G. Stockton, chairman of the Red Cross War fund, expressed deep appreciation of the generosity and interest shown by the workers in supporting this vital wartime activity.

BOSSES DIDN'T COOPERATE

"We know that the workers were tired of pressure methods used by the bosses in these drives," reports Press Agent Clyde Watts of Piedmont, "and we tried to get managements to cooperate with us, but they refused."

"After they had collected what they were able to get with the same boisterous attitude they had been using for years," Bro. Watts continued, "the Union, through its stewards, got busy. At lunch time and after work hours we were able to contact the workers and they showed they approved of a truly democratic approach by opening their pocketbooks and shelling out."

A total of $163.85 was contributed by Piedmont workers in thi- way.

First Beef Settled Under RJR Contract

Winston-Salem, N. C. — Arvil Crowder went back to his job on Monday, April 24, at R. J. Reynolds here, and on April 24 the CIO contract went into effect.

A coincidence? Not much. Bro. Crowder's grievance was the first one settled under the terms of the new contract. On Friday, April 21, he was discharged because he could not handle an increased work load on his job as machine feeder in plant 12 BI, second shift. Steward Charlie Weatherstone took up the grievance, through the second step, to the Superintendent, where it was settled promptly and fairly.

In the "old" days—a few short weeks ago—all a fired Reynolds worker could do was to shut up—and look for another job.

STEWARDS GET "KNOW-HOW"

Meantime, the Reynolds union is swinging the grievance machinery into motion on other issues, including the condition of the lunch rooms, which in all truth the News must report, are known among Reynolds workers as "slop houses." In other words, they are not clean. CIO workers demand proper lunch rooms, no slop houses.

The Shop Stewards are studying the contract and how to handle grievance settlement in three union classes, one for day shift, one for night shift, and one for those from departments where there are special union problems. Now that they have won a CIO contract, Reynolds workers are determined to see to it that the contract works, and works well.

The "Impossible" At Reynolds— A Story of Courage and Wisdom

Signing of the Reynolds ("Camel" cigarette) CIO contract on April 13 in Winston-Salem proved that the Reynolds workers "have what it takes." The 12,000 Negro and white workers were able to do the organizing job necessary to win for themselves a voice in their conditions. By doing so, they ended once for all an era stretching back to the first World War when all organizational efforts broke against the powerful Reynolds Co., Southern citadel of anti-unionism. Here are the highlights of this story of courage, determination and quiet wisdom, the story of workers who know how to build brick by brick, with faith in themselves and their union.

THE foundation for successful unionism at Reynolds was laid when UCAPAWA established the Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee in Winston-Salem almost three years ago.

"Impossible," said the faint-hearted—Reynolds will never "allow" a union in "its" plants, they claimed.

"Outrageous," said Reynolds bootlickers who had been sold the Reynolds paternalistic bill of goods — the "great and good" Reynolds Co. will look out for us, they shouted, at the same time hurling abuse at the CIO.

OPPOSITION TOUGH

Every weapon in the anti-CIO arsenal was hauled out to try to stop the Reynolds workers, but they refused to be stopped. And the workers maintained perfect order and discipline in spite of provocative incidents in the highly explosive situation, so that this notoriously company - dominated town went CIO peacefully, something of an achievement in view of the Reynolds power and the methods which were employed against the CIO movement.

Thinly veiled, and sometimes open, appeals to race prejudice by anti-union people failed to break the organization. Efforts to organize the community against CIO found all but a few Main Street business men uninspired to fight for Reynolds' paternalism.

COMPANY UNION ROARS

Hysterical and demagogic uproar against CIO by a company union — the R. J. Reynolds Employees Association—did not impress two-thirds of the workers in the slightest. And delays in winning certification from June to December 1943—during which the National Labor Relations Board itself was dragged into court several times—left the workers undiscouraged.

The attack on the NLRB, spearheaded by the Company Union, was in the "best" reactionary style of a decade ago. Injunctions issued by country and state courts were used to stall the NLRB election. Twice the workers saw the election notices torn from the walls in the departments, to a chorus of sneers and jeers from bosses and their stooges. But the workers went on their way undisturbed, confident that they would win their right to vote for the union of their choice. And they did.

SWEET VICTORY

The final election in December, 1943, brought CIO 6,822 votes and the Company Union 3,178, with 301 for neither. In an earlier election, the AFL polled only 135 votes.

With the signing of the contract on April 13, as reported in the last issue of the News, the organizational stage of the Reynolds campaign is almost ended. Wheels are in motion for settlement of final points through the War Labor Board.

Chapter two in the Reynolds story opens with consolidation of the union, developing grievance settlement and all the other activities of a union operating to improve the conditions of life of its members. (See story above, col. 5.)

Notes from Locals

New Members' Party

55 Middletown, Ohio—A supper and dance was given in honor of new members recently taken into Local 55 at P. Lorillard here. A good time was enjoyed by all. Many members are planning victory gardens again this year.

All members who were laid off a few weeks ago have been called back to work. It is my opinion that they were laid off to discourage the Armco steel workers, to defeat their election.

—By Jennie Stiver, Press Agent.

Lose Good Boss

72 Findlay, Ohio — We at the Deisel - Wemmer Gilbert plant here are very sorry to lose a good friend and co-worker, Mr. E. G. Day. Early in April the Company let him out after 30 odd years of faithful service as manager and foreman.

The explanation the Company gave Mr. Day for his dismissal is that he was too good to the girls and had too many friends in the factory, which interefered with the new management.

Some of the girls have worked for Mr. Day since 1911 and Local 72 appreciates his cooperation and wish him more success than he has received from the DWG Corporation.

Weekends Are Gay At First CIO Canteen In The Southland

Memphis, Tenn.—"This is wonderful—a CIO canteen!" said the sailor who had trekked down the whole of Union Avenue to find the servicemen's canteen his mates had been raving about. It was late afternoon, and the union girls who were cleaning up greeted the enthusiastic sailor who wanted to know more about the Memphis canteen. He turned out to be a CIO'er himself—a former electrical worker from Illinois.

Although the CIO canteen has been set up for little more than a month, it has already become a popular recreation spot for all servicemen in the Memphis area. Among the soldiers and sailors who come in weekends to enjoy the dancing, refreshments and entertainment are many CIO members—rubber workers, auto workers, government workers—from all over the United States. They are delighted to sit down with union members and talk over the latest developments in the labor world.

Tells Labor's Story

The South's first CIO servicemen's canteen was inspired by eight CIO servicemen who attended a Memphis CIO Council meeting and suggested that a canteen would be a good way to tell soldiers about organized labor's magnificent war record in Memphis. They promised their help in getting it publicized and suggesting programs. The CIO Council endorsed the plan, and rolling up its sleeves, went to work. A hall was rented directly under the main CIO building and right in the center of town.

Local 19 Pitches In

UCAPAWA Local 19 was one of the first to give its support to the project. It donated $25 when the canteen was opened and pledged to contribute the same amount each month for upkeep. Members of all the local unions pitched in after work to paint the hall, build bookshelves, desks and a snack bar, sand the floors and furnish the canteen.

Memphis, Tenn.—First night at the first CIO Servicemen's Canteen in the South delighted soldiers and sailors stationed around Memphis. Many CIO'ers in uniform found interesting company among the union hosts and hostesses, and non-union servicemen began to learn about the CIO's war record. UCAPAWA Local 19 was one of the first locals in town to give its support to the canteen.

Local union committees were set up to plan for the weekend they would sponsor the canteen. Each committee had to line up hosts and hostesses, home-made refreshments, entertainment, etc. Local 19 will use its weekend for the entertainment of Negro servicemen.

Real Union Center

CIO members in Memphis are proud of their center. Their union papers and pamphlets are there for those who want to read them. There is a growing library of good books. There is stationery headed "CIO Servicemen's Canteen." All day Sunday, boys can come in for reading, writing, bull sessions, music, good food, etc. But Saturday night is for fun. Nothing is sold in the canteen at all. Coffee, donuts, pies, cakes, sandwiches and cigarettes are free of charge. Even the nickelodeon is taped up.

Hostess Job Popular

The Canteen Committee has found to its delight that the canteen has also become a means of organizing more workers. It is no uncommon to hear every day, "oh yes, I signed up five more girls who want to be hostesses." It is a good union activity, especially for new women workers. The whole Memphis labor movement has grown closer together working out the plans for their joint canteen.

Am. Preserve Workers Every Month Send Money And Letters To The Boys

Philadelphia, Pa.—William Wood ("Woody") is a one-man Servicemen's Committee at the American Preserve plan here, and he is determined that some 55 former employees who are now serving Uncle Sam are remembered by the men in the plant.

Under the leadership of Local 186, the workers here, who process "Schimmel" jams and jellies for the armed forces, have decided that their high production record was not enough. In addition to their war production, they volunteered to contribute 25c per week from each employee for their servicemen.

Woody is collector, distributor and correspondent for the plant. Each month the money is divided equally and sent to the boys in the service, together with a letter. In many cases, the money is saved up until a bond can be bought for the boys.

"We are trying to do something to show our appreciation toward each and every one who left the plant, who helped make the shop what it is today," Woody explains.

And the response is terrific. About 25 or 30 letters pour in every month from the boys in every battlefront. In response to the good news from home and the useful gifts, the boys tell about their experience in training and in battle.

WOODY — LOCAL 186 SCRIBE

Charles Naylor, for instance, formerly working at the filling machine, is now a gunner's mate in the Navy. His letters told about the three battles he fought in the South Pacific, and about the Salerno invasion, when for 7 days there was no time to think of eating.

Another letter that Woody is proud of came from Peter Gnojski of the shipping floor, who is an airplane mechanic in New Guinea. Peter thanked the union men back home, but said to donate his share of the money to boys who are training in the States, since he couldn't spend the money in New Guinea. The Local, though, is saving Peter's share to buy bonds in his name for his family.

The letters which come in from servicemen are posted on the shop's bulletin board, and workers are invited to correspond with the boys.

'Fighting Like Hell To Come Back Soon'

Camden, N. J.—From somewhere in Australia comes this heartening letter from Pfc. Sherman S. Baker, former employee of Campbell Soup:

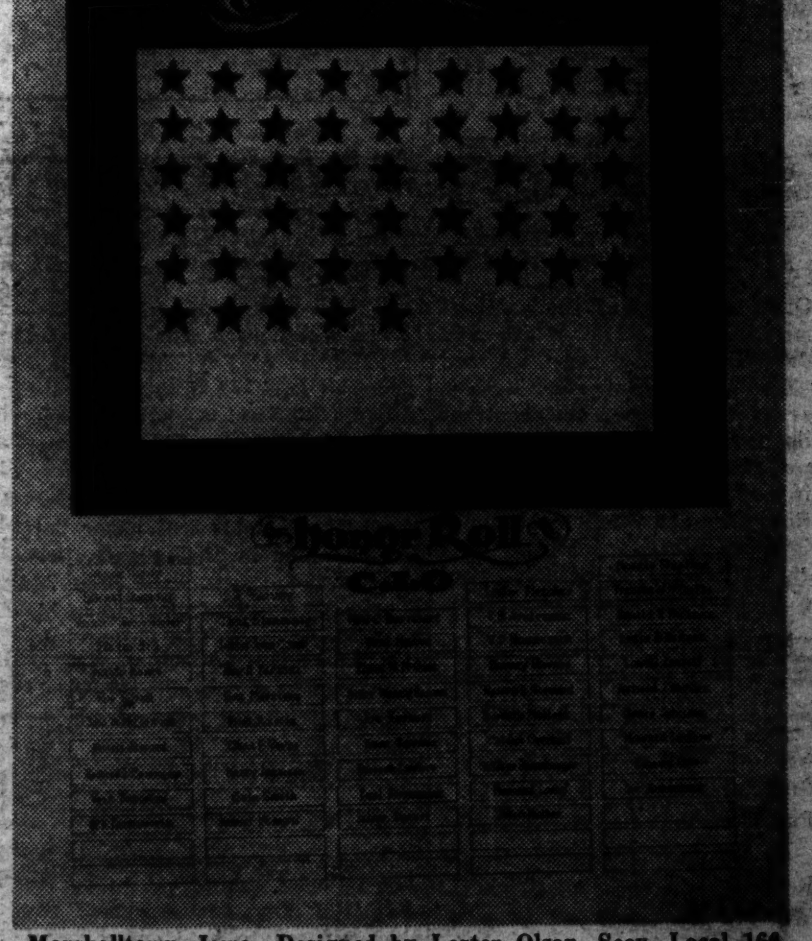
Dear Local 80:

"I have been receiving the Local 80 News, so I am taking time out to answer you. I am glad to know that the Local is thinking about us boys over here, so keep up the good work. I hope I will get my old job back again on the fourth floor Butcher Dept.

"I am enjoying reading your News, so tell all the boys hello and that I am fighting like hell to come back soon. Keep your chin up."

Union Men In Uniform

LOCAL 166 HONORS SERVICEMEN



Marshalltown, Iowa—Designed by Lester Olson, Secy. Local 166 and Chairman of the War Relief Committee, the honor roll (above) is a tribute to the Marshall Canning Co. employees now in the service. The painting was done by Floyd Stoaks of the Company's Art Dept. "We have about 50 in the service," reports Press Agent Palmer Peterson. "We have one gold star for Howard Luvig killed in action in Italy, and another of our boys, Harry Johnson, is missing in action."

CLIP OUT THIS PAGE and mail it to a man or woman in the service. Service men: If you are not getting your Union paper, send your address to UCAPAWA NEWS, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa.